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HEADQUARTERS  
Marine Aircraft Group 36  
1st Marine Aircraft Wing, FMFPac  
FPO, San Francisco, California 96602

Copy 1 of 7 series  
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14 Aug 68

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From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, First Marine Aircraft Wing (Attn: G-3 ACofS)  
Subj: Command Chronology  
Ref: (a) WgO 5750.1G

- Encl: ✓(1) MAG-36 Command Chronology July 68
- ✓(2) H&MS-36 Command Chronology July 68
- ✓(3) MABS-36 Command Chronology July 68
- ✓(4) HMM-165 Command Chronology July 68
- ✓(5) HMM-362 Command Chronology July 68
- ✓(6) HMM-363 Command Chronology July 68
- ✓(7) HMM-364 Command Chronology July 68
- ✓(8) HML-367 Command Chronology July 68

1. In accordance with the instructions contained in reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are submitted for the month of July 1968.

*Bruce J. Matheson*  
BRUCE J. MATHESON

Copy to:  
CG, 1st MAW (Copy 1 through 4)  
CG, 1st MAW (Copy 5 less enclosures (2) through (8))  
S-3 Files (Copy 6)  
S&C Files (Copy 7 less enclosures (2) through (8))

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MAG-36 S&C Files	
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MAG-36

1st MAW  
S&C Files

July 1968

## PART I ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

## 1. Commanders and Staff of M/G-36 and attached squadrons.

## M/G-36

CO	1-31 July	COL	Bruce J. MATHESON
XO	1-6 July	LtCol	Richard W. CLINE
XO	7-31 July	LtCol	Herbert J. BLAHA
ADJ	1-20 July	Capt	Richard K. SANDERS
ADJ	21-31 July	Capt	Thomas R. PRESTON
S-1	1-31 July	Major	Joseph R. SALES
S-2	1-2 July	Capt	Charles R. LOYD
S-2	3-31 July	Capt	Victor J. DEMARIA
S-3	1-31 July	LtCol	Glenn R. HUNTER
S-4	1-31 July	Major	James R. PARSONS
GSO	1-31 July	Major	"D" "C" MICKY
SPL SER O	1-18 July	Major	James A. MILLER
SPL SER O	19-31 July	Capt	Wesley H. BIRT
FISCAL O	1-31 July	Capt	Sidney R. GALE
CHAPLAIN	1-14 July	LtCmdr	James W. ROBINSON
CHAPLAIN	15-31 July	Lt(USN)	William J. KLAPPS
DISB O	1-31 July	1stLt	James R. RACHAL
FLT SUR	1-31 July	Lt(USN)	Richard F. ROMFH
MTO	1-31 July	1stLt	Billy B. LANE
EMB O	1-31 July	1stLt	Fred DAVIDSON
ORD O	1-31 July	1stLt	Benjamin J. STRICKLEY
AMO	1-31 July	Major	Donald A. IVES
COM O	1-31 July	Capt	Phillip R. MORRIS
CIV ACT O	1-31 July	Capt	Gordon W. SMITH
ASO	1-31 July	Major	James W. WARNER
NATOPS O	1-31 July	Capt	Robert C. MOORE
LEGAL O	1-20 July	Capt	Richard K. SANDERS
LEGAL O	21-31 July	Capt	Thomas R. PRESTON
SGT MLJ	1-19 July	1st Sgt	John D. ADKINS
SGT MLJ	20-31 July	Sgt Maj	James R. SKINNER

## H&amp;MS-36

CO	1-31 July	LtCol	George L. PATRICK
XO	1-31 July	Capt	Robert W. WIEGAND

## MLBS-36

CO	1-31 July	LtCol	William D. WATSON
XO	1-2 July	Major	Timothy J. CRONIN
XO	3-31 July	Major	Edward J. CHESLA JR.
FEO	1-31 July	Major	James L. LANGFORD
OIC MATCU-68	1-31 July	Capt	William C. JOINER

## HMM-165

CO	1-31 July	LtCol	Elvyn E. HAGEDORN
XO	1-31 July	Major	James E. PRATHER
OPS O	1-10 July	Major	David SAYES
OPS O	11-31 July	Major	Robert D. TAYLOR

ENCLOSURE (1)  
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HMM-362

CO	9-22 July	Major	Walter H. SHAUER Jr.
XO	9-16 July	Major	Edgar A. HOUSE
XO	17-22 July	Major	Homer P. JONES
OPS O	9-22 July	Captain	Calvin S. CHAMPION

HMM-363

CO	1-31 July	LtCol	DuWayne W. HOFFERT
XO	1-31 July	Major	James L. HARRISON
OPS O	1-31 July	Major	Thomas J. FALESKIE

HMM-364

CO	1-31 July	LtCol	Joseph R. DOBBRATZ
XO	1-31 July	Major	Harold B. ROTH
OPS O	1-19 July	Captain	Wesley H. BIRT
OPS O	20-31 July	Major	David L. ELAM

HML-367

CO	1-31 July	LtCol	Robert KING Jr.
XO	1-31 July	Major	Arthur A. DITTMELER
OPS O	1-31 July	Major	Fred L. GATZ

2. Task organization and unit location.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
MAG-36	Phu Bai	1-31 July
H&MS-36	Phu Bai	1-31 July
MABS-36	Phu Bai	1-31 July
MATCU-68	Phu Bai	1-31 July
HMM-165	Phu Bai	1-31 July
HMM-362	Phu Bai	9-22 July
HMM-363	Phu Bai	1-31 July
HMM-364	Phu Bai	1-31 July
HML-367	Phu Bai	1-31 July

3. Average Monthly Strength.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>MLR OFF</u>	<u>MLR ENL</u>	<u>NAV OFF</u>	<u>NAV ENL</u>
H&MS-36	52	515	0	0
MABS-36	16	521	2	21
MATCU-68	11	71	0	0
HMM-165	49	168	1	0
HMM-362	Not Available			
HMM-363	46	181	1	0
HMM-364	49	160	1	1
HML-367	42	155	1	0
MAG-36				22
TOTALS	265	1771	6	ENCLOSURE (1)

## 4. IMPORTANT VISITORS TO MAG-36

- a. Brigadier General Henry W. HISE visited MAG-36 on 16 July 1968.
- b. During the month of July 1968, the following officers of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing visited MAG-36 while on orientation tours. Informal briefings were presented by principal Group Staff officers.

Colonel John J. DOHERTY  
 Colonel Walter SIENKO  
 Colonel Rex A. DEASY  
 Colonel John R. GILL  
 Colonel John LOWMAN Jr.  
 Colonel Norman W. GOURLEY  
 Colonel Edward S. FRIS  
 Colonel Edward A. PARNELL

## PART II NARRATIVE SUMMARY

1. During the reporting period MAG-36 provided support to:
  - a. III MAF
  - b. I Corps Republic of Vietnam Forces
  - c. U. S. Army
2. Missions flown by MAG-36 included strikes, medical evacuations, reconnaissance insertions and extractions, troop and logistic movements, search and rescue, aerial reconnaissance, aircraft escort, administrative, courier, and VIP flights.
3. MAG-36 supported the following operations during the month of July:

MAMALUKE THRUST	LANCASTER II
MAMALUKE THRUST NORTH	SALINE/NAPOLEON
KENTUCKY	SCOTLAND II
HOUSTON	POCAHONTAS FOREST
ALLEN BROOK	EAGER YANKEE
DRAGON PALACE II	PRAIRIE FIRE
DRAGON PALACE III	NEVADA EAGLE

## 4. OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Operational test and evaluation of MK-19 40mm machine gun was conducted during the month by personnel of HML-367 and Landing Force Development Center. The evaluation demonstrated several significant improvements over existing weaponry, however certain modifications and improvements are required prior to Fleet acceptance. FMAW 250118Z Jul68 gives details.

b. On 13 July a special operation was conducted in which "D" Company, 1st Bn, 5th Marines was lifted into a suspected VC hospital and rest area. The company was retracted on 16 July.

c. On 16 July an aircraft of HMM-363 was shot down while on a medevac mission southwest of Camp Carroll.

d. On 21 July an aircraft of HMM-364 received heavy fire while on a recon insert and six (6) personnel were injured. (3 air crew and 3 team members)

e. On 23 July an aircraft of HMM-165 landed in DaNang Bay. This landing was caused by loss of power subsequent to an engine fire. The aircraft water-taxed to the beach, was secured overnight and lifted to MAG-16 the following day. The aircraft was subsequently sent to PAR due to salt water corrosion.

f. On 27 July an aircraft of HMM-363 crashed while on a medevac mission north of Camp Carroll.

g. MAG-36 furnished gunship support for 3rd Bn, 27th Marines during Operation Eager Yankee during the first phase of the operation. During the second phase, MAG-36 supported the operation with gun and transport aircraft for resupply and medevac missions.

h. MAG-36 lifted 1st Bn, 5th Marines on the first phase of Operation Mamaluke Thrust North on 23 July. The battalion was lifted out by MAG-36 on 30 July.

i. During the month of July MAG-36 augmented both FMAG-39 and MAG-16 with an average of 16 aircraft per day.

j. During the month MAG-36 maintained an airborne Mortar Watch over the Phu Bai vital area during hours of darkness. Coincidentally, the Phu Bai Combat Base did not undergo any artillery/mortar/rocket attacks during the month of July.

### PART III SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

#### 1. AIR OPERATIONS

a. MAG-36 accomplished the following during the month of July:

(1) Flight Hours	6,683.2
(2) Sorties	21,868
(3) Passengers Carried	26,663
(4) Tons of Cargo Carried	1,122.3
(5) Medical Evacuees Carried	1,968

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- b. Major Aircraft losses during the month were:

<u>CAUSE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>TYPE AIRCRAFT</u>
Direct Enemy Action	2	UH-34
Operational	0	

## 2. INTELLIGENCE

a. Continued three weekly briefs for the Commanding Officer and his staff; weekly briefs held for enlisted personnel on the Special Service Theater. Daily briefs held for squadron S-2's.

b. Again during July the Phu Bai Combat Base was not hit with incoming mortars or rockets. SLF Operation "Eager Yankee" to the east of Phu Bai Combat Base had no significant contact but did run into numerous mines and booby traps. Mamaluke Thrust North, while having no significant contact, did uncover numerous base areas and supply caches.

c. The enemy has utilized the past several months to resupply, replace their casualties and train for the suspected summer-fall offensive. Increase in enemy activity in the Hai Van pass, i.e., minings and daylight ambushes, indicates that the enemy may now be in the beginning stage of his renewed offensive.

d. Fire incidents to hours flown - 1 x 41.9 hrs  
 Hours flown per hit incident - 1 x 418.1 hrs  
 Hit incidents to total hits - 5.9 hits per acft  
 Fire incidents to hit incidents - 1 x 10 (10%)

- e. Grid squares where aircraft received intense enemy fire:

YC 9767 - 3 fire incidents, 2 hits  
 YC 9499 - 2 fire incidents  
 YC 9898 - 4 fire incidents, 1 hit  
 YD 9614 - 3 fire incidents  
 AT 8550 - 3 fire incidents, 2 hits  
 ZC 2057 - 2 fire incidents, 1 hit  
 XD 8339 - 2 fire incidents

f. Total fire incidents - 140  
 Aircraft hit - 14  
 Holes - 82  
 Crew KIA - 0  
 Crew WIA - 6  
 Forced to land - 3  
 Recovered - 2  
 Destroyed - 1  
 KRA (C) - None

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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### 3. LOGISTICS

a. Electrical power problems are soon to be alleviated by nine (9) 150-200 KW Generators being sent from the Wing.

b. Aviation fuel presented no problem this month. The peak day for fuel was 16 July 1968 when 7,355 gallons of 115/145 and 30,164 gallons of JP-4 were issued for a total of 37,519 gallons issued.

c. The following items were received or transferred for repair from MAG-36 Maintenance section:

- (1) 104 engines received for processing/repair
- (2) 2 transmissions received for processing/repair
- (3) 19 rotor heads received for processing/repair
- (4) 44 tail rotor assemblies received for processing/repair
- (5) 6 aircraft transferred
- (6) 3 aircraft received
- (7) 2 aircraft received for battle damage
- (8) 5 aircraft repairs completed

d. Base development for the month of July brought many improvements to the MAG-36 area. Construction commenced on the Officer's Club and Chapel. The 3M building has been completed. The Jet Engine shop is within 95% of completion. Matting of the western parking area has started and excellent progress is being made. The mat should be finished by 15 Oct 1968. Field drainage project utilizing a box culvert remains about 50% done with a completion date of 4 Oct 1968 forecast.

### 4. ADMINISTRATION

a. Total manning levels for the Group have remained generally the same as the previous month. Ten (10) Majors (7562 MOS) reported aboard from CONUS and relieved the shortage of field grade officers which had existed.

b. Very few personnel of 8151 MOS have reported aboard for several months and the Provisional Rifle Company is short of men due to normal attrition from rotations. This situation has necessitated the augmentation of the company by personnel from the squadrons.

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c. Casualties for the month of July are as follows:

	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
Hostile (USMC)	1	4
Non-Hostile (USMC)	0	7
Hostile (USN)	0	1
Non-Hostile (USN)	0	0
MIA	0	0
KIA	0	0
Serious Injuries	0	0
Totals	1	12

d. Captain NEUBIG of HML-367 was assigned TAD at the Fleet Air Rework Facility in Osaka, Japan, for a period of 30 days as maintenance test pilot. This is the first time this command has provided a pilot for this duty.

5. CHAPLAIN SERVICES

a. During the month of July the assigned Chaplains conducted Divine Services for personnel of the Protestant and Catholic faiths. LCDR J. W. ROBINSON, CHC, USNR, completed his tour of duty this month. In the absence of Chaplain ROBINSON, the Protestant services were conducted by Chaplain SULLIVAN, Lt, CHC, USNR, of the 1st Med Bn. Chaplain E. E. KEELE, Lt, CHC, USNR, reported to this command on 2 August 1968 for duty as the Protestant Chaplain. Chaplain KEELE comes from MAG-11 and has been in country since January 1968.

b. The Chaplains, insofar as possible, interview each new man reporting aboard. The Catholic Chaplain writes a brief letter to the immediate family of the new men of the Catholic Faith. The letter discusses safe arrival, favorable messing and living conditions, church service availability, and encourages the immediate family to write frequently to the serviceman.

c. The Catholic Chaplain tries to spend a few hours one day per week at Prov. MAG-39, Quang Tri, to counsel personnel of the Catholic Faith.

DIVINE SERVICES FOR MAG-36

	Sunday Att.		Weekday Att.		Total Ser.	Total Att.
Protestant	8	317	0	0	8	317
Catholic	8	534	24	254	32	788

DIVINE SERVICES FOR OTHER UNITS

Protestant	2	29	2	8	4	37
Catholic	5	208	24	227	29	435